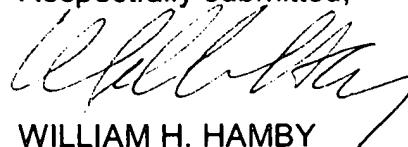


In view of the foregoing, allowance of the above-referenced application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



WILLIAM H. HAMBY  
ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANTS  
REGISTRATION NO. 31,521  
TELEPHONE: (302) 992-3230  
FACSIMILE: (302) 992-3257

Dated: Mar 11, 2003

injection molded to form the injection molded test specimens (whose sizes are 48 mm x 86mm x 3 mm) using K50-C produced by Kawaguchi Steel K.K. and the cylinder temperature was set to 250°C. Mold temperature was 60°C. Good and uniformly black appearance and surface gloss without color shading of the specimens were observed.

Page 14, line 11, change "formula [2]" to formula (2) as follows:

**Examples 5 - 11**

Unreinforced Nylon 6 ZYTEL pellets (available from E.I. DuPont de Nemours and Co.) were dried under vacuum at 120°C, for more than 8 hours, then mixed with a mixture of **black** metal azo complex dye A (represented by formula [[2]] (2) ) with **yellow** metal azo complex dye E represented by the formula [4] in amounts set forth in Table 2 in a stainless tumble mixer with stirring for one hour. The mixture was then injection molded to form the injection molded test specimens (whose sizes are 48 mm x 86mm x 3 mm) using K50-C produced by Kawaguchi Steel K.K. and the cylinder temperature was set to 250°C. Mold temperature was 60°C. Good and uniformly black appearance and surface gloss without color shading of the specimens were observed. Transmission properties, appearance and surface gloss were measured by the following test procedures:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

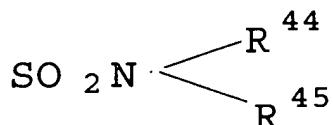
1. (Amended) A composition suitable for laser welding comprising a thermoplastic resin and a 1:2 [type] metallic azo complex dye being transparent for the near-infrared spectrum of a laser beam applied in said laser welding having a main wavelength from 800 nm to 1200 nm.

2. (Amended) A thermoplastic resin composition for laser welding comprising

- 1) at least one thermoplastic resin; and,
- 2) a black colorant having at least one of 1:2 metallic azo [the metal azo] complex dyes of the following formulas, said 1:2 metallic azo complex dye being transparent for the near-infrared spectrum of a laser beam applied in said laser welding having a main wavelength from 800 nm to 1200 nm:

The formula [I]

Wherein  $R^{39}, R^{41}$ , which may be the same or different, are Cl,



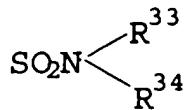
, or  $\text{SO}_2\text{R}^{43}$ ,  $\text{R}^{44}$ ,  $\text{R}^{45}$ , which may be the same or different, are independently hydrogen atom, linear [liner] or branched C1-C4alkyl,  $\text{R}^{43}$  is linear or branched C1-C4 alkyl,  $\text{R}^{40}$ ,  $\text{R}^{42}$ , which may be the same or different, are hydrogen, liner or branched C1-C18 alkyl group, linear [liner] or branched C2-C18alkenyl group, sulfonamide group, carboxyl group, mesyl group, hydroxyl group, C1-C18 alkoxy group, acethylamino group, benzoylamino group, a halogen atom or  $-\text{CONH}-\text{R}^{46}$ ,  $\text{R}^{46}$  is functional group selected from unsubstituted or substituted linear [liner] or branched C1-C18 alkyl or unsubstituted substituted C6-C18 aryl group,  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  are independently O or COO,  $(E)^+$  are  $\text{H}^+$ ; cation of alkali metal, ammonium ion, cations of organic amine including aliphatic primary, secondary and tertiary amines, quaternary ammonium ion.

,  $K^3$  is an integer,  $m^3$  is 0,1 or 2,

$M^1$  is a kind of metals[, preferably metals] having coordination numbers of from 2 to 4 [, more preferably trivalent metal such as Cr, Fe, Cu];

The formula [II]

wherein  $R^{30}$  and  $R^{31}$ , which may be the same or different, are Cl,



$\text{SO}_2\text{R}^{32}$ , or H,

$R^{33}$  and  $R^{34}$ , which may be the same or different, are independently hydrogen atom, linear or branched C1-C4 alkyl,

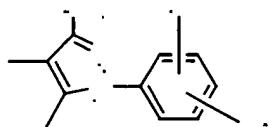
$R^{32}$  is linear or branched C1-C4 alkyl,  $L_3$  and  $L_4$  are independently O or COO,

(D)<sup>+</sup> is hydrogen ion, cation of alkali metals, ammonium ion, cations of organic amine including aliphatic primary, secondary and tertiary amines, quaternary ammonium ion,

$K^2$  is an integer,  $m^2$  is 0, 1 or 2,

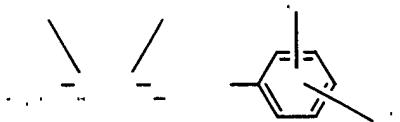
$M^2$  is metals of atomic numbers of from 2 to 4 [such as Zn, Sr, Cr, Al, Ti, Fe, Zr, Ni, Co, Mn, B, Si and Sn, preferably metal of atomic numbers of 3 such as Cr, Co, Cu, Ni, Al],

B is represented by formula



-----[III]

or



-----[IV]

wherein  $R^{35}$  and  $R^{37}$ , which may be the same or different, are Cl,

